

EDITORIAL

Politics For Everyone

In both elementary and high school we have been taught the virtues of our system of democratic government contrasted to the fascism of Germany and the communism of Russia.

Teachers have informed us that it is our duty in a democratic society to use the power of the vote. But few bother with any details on how to use the vote wisely.

They have provided little insight into the political machines of a democracy—possibly by way of fear, in that they are employed by whichever of these political machines or parties currently is in the public favor.

Keeping politics out of the classroom is no doubt a necessary thing. But to keep the relation of party politics to our democracy out of the classroom is an entirely different matter.

Many students graduating from high school receive no further formal education. Yet upon reaching the required voting age of 21 they are expected to know how to use their franchise intelligently.

Some, of course, go no further than reading the newspaper accounts of the political campaigns—which, however unbiased they may be, usually only touch the surface of the issue.

But to better understand the intricacies of any campaign, membership in a political party can often clarify certain of the issues. And a further advantage is that each member of a well-run party has a say in his party's final campaign strategy.

In fact it is perhaps more in the opportunity to play a part in the formation of a party platform that the individual citizen of today has a say in our democracy.

So that a party may be well-run, it is nearly imperative that it have a large active membership. Here many of today's and tomorrow's citizens fail.

As evidenced in last June's provincial election, political parties that to all intents and purposes are ruled from above will ultimately meet defeat at the polls.

But in condemning the downtrodden Liberals and Conservatives we are apt to forget that it is within our power as individuals to belong to these parties. And by taking an active interest in party affairs there is much less chance that the organization can be controlled from above by a few all-powerful individuals.

Truly, either liberal, conservative, or socialist principles will prevail in our society. But whether the parties supposedly representing these principles actually carry them out in office is another matter.

The individual citizen believing in any one of these principles should take an active part in the affairs of the party which purports to support them. Once there he should make it his duty to see that these principles are followed.

Although he may often disagree in method with other party members, he should be willing to abide by the majority opinion. However, he should not carry his allegiance to any party to the point where he is being dictated to from above.

As the old line parties set about to rebuild their organization and the Secreds and C.C.F. attempt to strengthen their present organization, there will be an increasing demand for young people within their ranks.

In fact, if more of us would join the young organizations of the adult political parties, our democracy would have little to fear from communism or fascism.

The Martlet believes that the time for a person to take an active interest in politics is before he becomes of voting age. Then by the time he has reached his 21st birthday he will be well acquainted with any problems at hand.

For this reason we suggest that all students at some time during this year should inquire about membership in some political party. The best time for such action is now, when the parties are beginning their new year.

Students desiring information concerning any of the four major political parties may do so at the following places:

C.C.F.—W. O. Clunk at Garden 9507. Or at the C.C.F. Hall, Pandora near Quadra, any Monday night or the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 8 p.m.

Liberal—Don Anderson, 202 Kresge Building (Fort and Douglas) or call him at Empire 1431.

Progressive Conservative—Vic Allan, Garden 1005.

Social Credit—Call at Social Credit headquarters on Pandora Avenue, one half block above Douglas at any time.

College Celebrates 50th Anniversary

Under direction of the faculty, celebration of Victoria College's fiftieth anniversary will be observed the week following Thanksgiving, October 13 to 17.

During the week a panel discussion will be held in the auditorium; official opening ceremonies of the Ewing Building will be performed; the portrait of the late Dr. J. M. Ewing, former principal of Victoria College, will be unveiled, and scholarships and prizes will be formally presented to students.

Prize-giving ceremonies are scheduled for the evening of October 17.

THE MARTLET
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Editor Bill Broadley
Business Manager George Price
Advertising Manager Gary Monteith
Sports Editor Geoffrey Conway
Writers—Frances Fredette, Anne Pomeroy, Gerry Bilou, Alex Glover, Anthony Gambrill, Mollie Bratvold, Vivian Bales, Ann Coleman, Amy Bandrevick, Dinah Kerr, Anne Skelton, Brian Smith, Stuart Beaveridge, Ray Bell, Audrey Winterburn.
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RUGBY OPENER TODAY

Weegee

By GERRY BILOU

I've had quite a few requests about this article, but I'm going to do it anyway. I used to send jokes to magazines. Now I tear them up myself. Lately I've been receiving a lot of sound advice on how to write my articles. The only trouble is, most of it's sound and very little advice.

I'm supposed to tell you a little about myself, so I think I'll start with high school. I was smart in high school. My buddy and I never got less than 95 per cent. He got 90 per cent and I got 5 per cent. I used to spend my mornings in school and my afternoons in a poolroom. It was a shame the way I wasted those mornings. One day I got an F on my report card and was father pleased! I told him it meant phenomenal. In my fourth, or freshman year, I made all the other kids look sick. I had the measles and they caught them. Then I got into Grade II. Four years passed but I didn't. I even flunked recess. But after years of toil I finally graduated. My father even threw a party in the backyard, but mother didn't like it one bit. She was the party. When I graduated from high school I was hoping they would give me the "Chair of Journalism." All the other students hoped so, too. They kept yelling, "Give Bilou the chair, give Bilou the chair."

Then I came to college, and there's one thing sure I've learned here. I've learned I should have stayed in high school. But what good is going to college? Who can make a living necking? I almost dropped psychology but I couldn't. I needed the sleep. I'll never forget the day I had to spell "impudent" in my English class. I said, "I-M-P-U" and they made me stop right there. It was then I found that Archeology is the science that proves you can't keep a good man down. Every day the English teacher would spank me. He wanted me to be well-read . . . and I was . . . in the end. I would write letters a lot. I'd write one to my father that would go something like this, "Dear Dad, let's hear from you more often. Even if it's only \$10 or \$15." Then he would reply with a letter that read, "Dear son, sorry I didn't put any money in this as I have already sealed the envelope."

I'm really interested in sports tho'. I go in for boxing a lot. My first opponent only came up to my chin, but he came up once too often. My manager said I'd beat him hands down. The only trouble was, he wouldn't keep his hands down. He finally won on a decision, tho'. I decided I'd had enough. I even fought our school champion once and did I have him worried in the first round. He thot he'd killed me. Just before the fight started my manager yelled in my ear that my opponent beat his wife, kicked his children, and starved his mother. That made me fighting mad. If there's anything I can't stand it's someone yelling in my ear. As soon as I got into the ring my opponent gave me one of his Sunday punches. That's where you get hit and land on your week-end.

Well, that's enough of my rambles for now, but if you didn't like it, remember: My prose is bad, but it might be verse.

bers to the various fields and intricacies of their planned vocations. Well known Victoria doctors will be guest speakers at meetings during the year.

The main project of this year's Camera Club is to provide a dark room for the College. In this way the club hopes to enlarge its interest and membership. Commercial photographers will attend the club meeting to assist and teach members the finer points of photography.

For pre-law students, the Forensic club offers discussions and guest speakers of interest and education. President Barrie Brinkworth has lined up several Victoria lawyers as guest speakers.

According to President Robin Maunsell, the Women's Undergraduate Society (WUGS) is more than just the women of the college united, it is an organization whose purpose is to stimulate social and intellectual ideas in its members. This year's activities include sponsoring the annual Co-Ed dance and decorating the Women's Commons.

CLUB CLIPPINGS

For the students who are interested in Christian Organizations there are two clubs available. The Varsity Christian Fellowship, with president Ken Barker has the motto "To know Christ and to make Him known." Club meetings throughout the year will include discussion groups and visiting speakers. The other club, The Students Christian Movement, with president John Maunsell, has a program during the year of Bible study groups, discussions, guest speakers and reviews of pertinent books.

The SCM, an affiliate club of the National Christian Movement (headquarters in Geneva), will hold a Christmas conference in Calgary this year and an annual spring conference in Toronto.

The Jazz Club program features records "of all types as long as they are jazz." Special guests will be present at some of the jam sessions during the year.

This year the Chemistry Club, under president Lyle Robertson, has an agenda including guest speakers, such as Dr. Petrie from the observatory, tours of certain laboratories and special science films. This club is particularly directed toward the interest of physics, chemistry and biology students.

The Pre-Med Club although primarily for prospective doctors is also of interest to future X-ray, lab technicians, biologists, etc. The purpose of this club is to introduce its mem-

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GIRLS' SPORTS

During this coming week after our new girls' sports rep. has been elected, the girls' athletic activities should be well under way for another season. Meetings concerning basketball, badminton and grass hockey will be held on Monday and Tuesday.

Victoria College teams, it is hoped, will participate in basketball and badminton tournaments at Vancouver this spring, while the Bridgeman Cup matches for grass hockey will probably be held sometime in November. Let's have a good turnout to these first organization meetings. Sports is definitely the very best way to keep that slender College girl figure and to relieve those "sit-me-down" aches.

FRESHETTE TEA

Saturday, September 27th was the date of the annual Freshette tea. The object of the tea was to introduce the frosh girls to the faculty, and to make them familiar with the college in general. The tea was held one week later than in previous years; however, its success was not diminished by the change in date. It was opened by Miss Downes at three o'clock. Mrs. Noble and Mrs. Hickman presided at the urns.

STUDENT COUNCIL NOTES

Although the three meetings of the Victoria College Students' Council held so far have dealt extensively with tidying up matters from last year, several new questions have arisen.

Prime among them is accident insurance for students playing for College teams. Up until now the Council has been held responsible for any claims by students injured while competing for College.

As yet, no definite insurance policy has been taken out.

A letter to the B.C. Electric, requesting that students' fares be applicable to College students is now in the mail. In previous years this request has met with denial.

Are YOU a loyal College student wanting to prove to your Council that their hard work on Frosh week was not done in vain? Do YOU want to see your fellow students striving for victory on the battlefield?

Then come out on Saturday afternoon at 2:30 to McDonald Park to cheer your Rugby XV in their opening contest of the season against J.B.A.A.

You will see what is probably the speediest three-line in the Rugby Union league and what is certainly the most spirited scrum in, or out of, circulation.

Coach Keith McDonald admits, although under pressure, that our chances of a strong second place finish in the standings are excellent. So let's all turn out to the park and give our team some much needed support in their quest for the championship.

On Monday the largest turnout in years, over 20 enthusiastic players, appeared to vie for positions on the soccer eleven—Tryg Carlsen, Trev Jeans, and Al Cliff are back for the Vikings while Gary Webster, Art Dawe, and Trev Johnston are starry newcomers to the College eleven—a "new look" on the soccer field will be in evidence on Sunday when the squad meets Combines in new uniforms at Beacon Hill Park. Game time is about 2:00.

Basketball will be fighting for survival this year due to the negative appearance of various experienced players—could it be they prefer outside colours over the blue and gold? "Doc" Miller is the repeat coach and Hal Gregg is the lone repeat player.

The College badminton season will officially open next week—all interested should attend the Monday organization meeting—probable opening day of play is Wednesday.

Good news is forthcoming for table tennis followers with the Council's plans to purchase one table and the Normal School's plan to match that purchase—situation of said tables, in the old library.

Remember! Help your college—come to McDonald Park at 2:30 Saturday.

The Scrap Book

By STUART BEAVERIDGE

★ ★ ★ ★

ON ENGLISH 200

I understand, though not too well,
That during Queen Elizabeth's reign
Life was really not the same
As it is in this twentieth century world
Of dough-nut machines and Esquire girls
Of crime-comic books and Stravinski's Ballets
Of virtue and church too, and T. Williams' plays

I understand, though not too well,
That life was particularly hell
That baths were had but once a year
So even wise lovers came not too near
One another without having on
Several ounces of "eau de Cologne"
Moreover that one might walk a mile
In search of the time at the nearest dial
And what to do when the sun is down?
And how does the sun know when it's dawn?
Electric lights were Marlowe's taper
And poor Shakespeare had no toilet paper.

★ ★ ★ ★

THE WISDOM OF THE ANCIENTS

He drinks too much; such men are dangerous.—Shakespeare.
Honi soit qui mal y pense: Medieval French for "Shame on the guy with the dirty mind."

★ ★ ★ ★

(Ed. Note: Articles such as the following do not necessarily coincide with the point of view of Martlet editors. They will be printed, however, in line with the customary editorial policy concerning controversial issues.)

B.C. is going to have another election. All parties are preparing once again to spend several thousands of dollars extolling the virtues and denying the vices of their various candidates. Does it not sometimes make you wonder if there are not more benefits conferred in the winning of an election than the small salary involved.

It would of course be unwise to suggest that there was anything even slightly undesirable in the government. One must therefore retreat to the other horn, and say that the great expense of running for a seat in the legislature is made because the noble candidates sincerely feel that we the people should have the best of governments—and each of these men—so free with their money—is sure that his party is the best.

It is all of four and a half months since the last election was held. This system of voting—the preferential ballot system—is the one used in France. I suppose, though, that it is good for the people to take part in their government so frequently. But when will there be time for legislation?

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